

Amendments to Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-18. Canceled.

19. (Currently Amended) A kit comprising:

a urine sample collection device comprising a strip having a handle end and a collection end, said collection end having a collection pad, the collection pad being a sponge-like material made of polyvinyl alcohol,

wherein the device includes a means for facilitating removal of at least a portion of the collection pad from the strip to recover the analyte for detection or measurement by laboratory analysis; ~~and~~

an information card for providing information about the patient; and

an extraction reagent selected from water or aqueous buffer solution for extracting a urine sample from the collection pad;

wherein the collection pad is pre-treated with a reagent which facilitates the collection, separation, storage, transport, preservation, recovery, or analysis of the sample.

20. (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 19 wherein said kit further comprises a urine collection cup for collecting a urine sample.

21. (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 19, wherein the means for removing at least a portion of the collection pad comprises an aperture formed through the collection end of the strip.

Claims 22-23. Canceled.

24. (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 19 wherein said kit further comprises packaging means for transporting the device.

25. (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 19, wherein said strip is made of a polymer and is rigid enough to prevent drooping or bending of the strip during manipulation by a user of the device.

26. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 25, wherein said polymer is polystyrene.

27. (Currently Amended) A device for laboratory analysis of an analyte, the device comprising:

a strip having a handle end and a collection end, the collection end having attached thereon a collection pad for collecting and drying a liquid biological sample containing the analyte, and

an extraction reagent selected from water or aqueous buffer solution for extracting the liquid biological sample from the collection pad;

wherein the collection pad consists essentially of a sponge-like material made of polyvinyl alcohol;

wherein the device further comprises a means for facilitating removal of at least a portion of the collection pad from the strip to recover the analyte for detection or measurement by laboratory analysis;

wherein the collection pad is pre-treated with a reagent which facilitates the collection, separation, storage, transport, preservation, recovery, or analysis of the sample;

wherein the liquid biological sample is urine.

Claim 28. Canceled.

29. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 27, wherein the collection pad consists of the sponge-like material.

30. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 27, wherein the sponge-like material comprises a plurality of pores.

31. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 30, wherein the pores are sized from about 0.01 to about 1.2 mm.

32. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 27, wherein the sponge-like material has a dry density of between about 0.049 and about 0.1 gram per cubic centimeter.

Claim 33. Canceled.

34. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 27, wherein the means for facilitating removal of at least a portion of the collection pad comprises an aperture formed through the collection end of the strip.

Claim 35. Canceled.

36. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~35~~ 27, wherein the reagent is bovine serum albumin.

37. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 27, wherein the collection pad is substantially non-reactive for purposes of providing a rapid, on-site diagnostic test.

38. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 27, wherein the device comprises a plurality of collection pads.

39. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 38, wherein the device comprises a plurality of apertures formed through the collection end of the strip.

40. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 27, wherein the collection pad has absorbed therein the biological sample containing the analyte.

Claim 41. Canceled.

42. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 41 27, wherein the biological sample comprises albumin derived from urine.

43. (New) A kit comprising:
a urine sample collection device comprising a strip having a handle end and a collection end, said collection end having a collection pad, the collection pad being a sponge-like material made of polyvinyl alcohol,
wherein the device includes a means for facilitating removal of at least a portion of the collection pad from the strip to recover the analyte for detection or measurement by laboratory analysis;
a dried urine sample on the collection pad;
an information card for providing information about the patient; and
an extraction reagent selected from water or aqueous buffer solution for extracting the dried urine sample from the collection pad.

44. (New) The kit of claim 43, wherein the collection pad is pre-treated with a reagent which facilitates the collection, separation, storage, transport, preservation, recovery, or analysis of the sample.